

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please replace the section entitled “Abstract” of the specification with the enclosed replacement abstract.

A Secure File Distribution Network (SFDN) method and computer system that allows copyrighted digital works to be sold securely by independent sales parties. ~~The system referred to as the Secure File Distribution Network (SFDN), and~~ ensures that all creators and distributors of the ~~copyrighted digital data work~~ are paid all royalties and fees owed to them, regardless of who is selling the ~~copyrighted digital data work~~ and ~~without damaging their fair use rights~~. ~~The VA~~ A verification authority tracks is responsible for ~~keeping track~~ all buyers, sellers and ~~merchatable~~ digital works being traded on the file sales network, ~~A merchatable work is described as any copyrighted digital work that is being sold on the file sales network. The VA is responsible for matching matches~~ buyers with sellers, and ~~providing~~ provides a digital works search service for users of the system so ~~that merchatable works can be found easily~~. Once a ~~merchatable~~ digital work is located in a desired media format, and at an attractive price, a buyer and seller can negotiate a secure transaction. Once the ~~secure~~ transaction is completed using the SFDN, ~~(ie: a buyer has the digital media purchased), the VA~~ verification authority will distribute distributes payments to the seller and all creators involved in a particular work. Thus ~~a considerably more useful file distribution and royalty disbursement system provides~~ the SFDN provides content ~~creators~~ creator security in earning a living ~~from creative works~~ while not impinging on consumer's ~~consumer~~ fair use rights.

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